

that they see lower copayments for prescription coverage.

The fact is that we can contain costs and help enable every American to have access to health insurance coverage. This is a moral imperative. It's an economic imperative for our families and for our businesses and for our Nation.

Fifty million Americans without health insurance, 14,000 a day being uninsured. It's time to get this done. It's time to act.

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. KING of Iowa asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, this whole health care debate started out clear back during the Obama-Hillary debate during the Presidential campaign.

President Obama has come to two premises: One is we spend too much money on health care. The proposed solution from Democrats? Spend a lot more, \$1 to \$2 trillion more.

The second premise: That too many are uninsured, 47 million or, as we just heard, 39 million. When you subtract from 47 million illegal aliens and immigrants and those who qualify under their employer and those who make over \$75,000 a year and those who qualify for government programs, you're down to 12.1 million, not 47. That's less than 4 percent of the population.

They seek to overhaul 100 percent of the health insurance industry in America and 100 percent of the health care delivery system in America to do what? To reduce that number of uninsured from 4 percent down to something like perhaps 2 and, in the process, put in place the framework for so-called medicine.

Additionally, they give us an opt-out. Well, here's what I'll opt out of: I'll opt out of funding abortions. I'll opt out of funding illegals. I'll opt out of lawsuit abuse, tax increases, and Medicare cuts.

HEALTH CARE

(Ms. FUDGE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I have been listening to a lot of this today, and I just feel that it's time that the American people hear the truth.

The truth is that more than 60 percent of the American people want health care reform. The truth is that seniors pay much too much for their prescriptions and for their medications. The truth is that the American people are being mistreated by their insurance companies as they exist today. And the truth is that Democrats are working to fix the problem and not just be obstructionist.

LET'S MOVE FORWARD ON A JOB AGENDA FOR AMERICANS, NOT AN AGENDA OF GOVERNMENT-RUN HEALTH CARE

(Mr. CAMPBELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, it seems that the Democrat majority in this town is determined to install a government-run health care system which will be costly, inefficient, and provide bad care. We all know that.

I happen to support something that's directionally opposite to that, something called the Patients' Choice Act, which, instead of putting new bureaucracies in between people and their doctors, it would eliminate some of the existing bureaucracies and get employers and the government out of the way between people and their doctors so that they can control their own health care.

But you know what? As important as the health care debate is here, do you know what people in America want right now? Jobs. They want jobs. And if there is one thing this plan that the Democrats are proposing will do, it will cost even more Americans their jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you and I would ask the President where are the jobs you promised? Let's move forward in America on a job agenda, not an agenda of government-run health care.

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. HASTINGS of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have been here 18 years fighting for health care for Americans. There are, regardless of whose numbers you use, millions of uninsured people in this country and tens of millions who are underinsured and have become, in many respects, the prime justification for moving forward with one of the most aggressive health care reform agendas in modern history.

However, despite the unquestionable need for intervention, some have sought to dominate the health care debate with fear-mongering, misinformation, and blind opposition to key reform elements without offering substantive and high-quality alternatives. This perpetuation of fictions and misinterpretations is off base and has steered the health care discussion off course.

One thing I asked Americans all summer long as we got to this point was name me the day in the last 10 years that your health care went down. Name the day. You name the day.

HEALTH CARE

(Mr. COLE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, the Democratic health care bill now being draft-

ed behind closed doors is bad for seniors, bad for taxpayers, and bad for the quality of America's health care system.

It will cut Medicare spending on seniors. It will cost taxpayers \$1 trillion, and it will push the American medical system toward an underfunded, over-regulated, government-run health care system. We can do better than that.

Republicans have offered in good faith positive proposals putting patients first, reforms that protect the doctor-patient relationship, increase accessibility, and truly make health care more affordable. However, these ideas have never been heard in the back rooms of the Capitol where the Democrats are crafting their own partisan proposals.

Mr. Speaker, the majority's proposals continue to ignore medical liability reform, something the President himself said would be addressed. Tort reform has yet to be raised in the deliberations of our Democratic majority.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot allow the government to stand between patients and health care. Americans are smart enough to know the difference between no choice and a real choice.

THE TEA PARTY MINORITY

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the TEA Party minority didn't succeed this summer as they thought they had, so they have come to the floor this afternoon. And they are not going to succeed any more on the floor than they succeeded with the noise of the summer. And how do we know it? The public option has come roaring back.

The people got through the noise, and they understand now to a fare-thee-well. In fact, my greatest fear is that now more people want the public option than will qualify for the public option in the bill, once they came to understand the relationship between what they're paying for insurance, that health insurance has been going up at a rate three times their wages, and that is why the wages of the residents of our country have been flat for decades. Once they understood that, they put two and two together.

The American people are smart. They are smarter than the TEA Party crowd that has taken to the floor this afternoon.

EXPRESSING CONCERN REGARDING THE EFFECT OF PROPOSED HEALTH CARE REFORM ON SENIOR CITIZENS

(Mr. KLINE of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINE of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern